

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 73

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize Dr. Norman C. Francis for his distinguished and record-setting 36-year career as president of Xavier University in New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Francis is the longest-serving president of a major university in the United States; he is a nationally recognized leader in higher education and was selected by his peers as one of the nation's most effective college presidents; and

WHEREAS, Under Dr. Francis's leadership, the university has earned a first-class reputation and has gained national prominence in the sciences; and

WHEREAS, The nation's only institution of higher learning that is historically black and Catholic, Xavier University ranks first nationally in the number of African Americans earning undergraduate degrees in both the life sciences and physical sciences, and it ranks first in placing African Americans in medical schools; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Francis sets high standards for his faculty, administrative officers, and students and provides an environment conducive to learning; over his long career, he has had a positive influence on the lives of countless students, the community, and the field of higher education; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby commend Dr. Norman Francis, for his outstanding achievements in education and extend congratulations to him on his long and productive career; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for him as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

Ellis

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on July 17, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate